

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of May 9, 2005**

1. **Officers in Training:** Two officers attended auto theft investigators school for two days. Four officers will be attending half-day training tomorrow offered by the Response to Emergencies and Disasters Institute(READI), a regional organization providing homeland security information and training. Sergeant Dan Frishkorn attended the FBI's four-day Defensive Tactics Instructors Course. *(Police)*
2. **COP Team (Wards 1, 3, & 6):** Officer Tina Smith, Victor Sector, did a bike safety event (with Corporal Fred Roush) for a local Cub Scout group and taught D.A.R.E. at John Nevins Andrews School. (Wards 1 & 3). Officer Joseph Butler conducted commercial security surveys and distributed literature in an area that has experienced commercial burglaries recently. He is also working with Hampshire Tower residents on security concerns and how the residents can become involved in improvements. *(Police)*
3. **Chief's Activities (Ward 6):** Chief Cindy Creamer attended the C-SAFE oversight committee meeting, the CDA semi-annual meeting, (Ward 6) and the Safe Roadways Committee meeting. With Lt. Cipperly, she attended the county's Fallen Heroes memorial, part of observances of Police Week. Chief Coursey attended the Montgomery County Highway Safety Office Taskforce. *(Police)*
4. **Crime Report (Ward 6):** CID had an undercover detail in the X-Ray Sector addressing a recent commercial burglary problem May 4-11. Several suspicious persons were stopped in the area; no commercial burglaries were reported. *(Police)*
5. **Visit by Lt. Governor:** Lt. Gov. Michael Steele will visit Takoma Park on Thursday morning, May 19. He will be joined by several high level State officials, Council members, staff and media. Brief tour stops include Takoma Old Town, the intersection of University Blvd. and New Hampshire Avenue, and the Spanish Catholic Center. *(Community & Government Liaison)*
6. **"Thank You" to Our State Legislators Planned:** The Council will honor Senator Ida Ruben, and Delegates Peter Franchot, Sheila Hixson and Gareth Murray on the evening of Monday, May 23 in the Takoma Park Council Chambers. A reception for our District 20 representatives will begin at 7pm, followed by a presentation at the 7:30pm Council meeting. All are welcome to help thank our legislators for their wonderful service to the Takoma Park community. We are particularly appreciative of the \$350,000 in funds for the Community Center won by our District 20 team during a very difficult Legislative Session this year. *(Community & Government Liaison)*
7. **Final TASDI Report on Web Site:** A slightly revised version of the Report of the Residents' Committee on Tax and Service Duplication Issues is now on the City's web page at www.cityoftakomapark.org. This highly-readable report contains a wealth of information concerning Takoma Park taxes and services. The report shows that Montgomery County should be rebating at least \$1 million more annually to the City of Takoma Park for taxes paid to the County for services provided by the City government. Hard copies of the report should be available in about a week. Please contact Suzanne Ludlow at SuzanneL@takomagov.org or 301-891-7229 for more information. *(Community & Government Liaison)*

8. **Orchard Avenue Office Building Parking Waiver Approved (Ward 3):** The Montgomery County Planning Board has approved a parking waiver of six spaces for the proposed small office building on Orchard Avenue near Sligo Mill Road. The property will include parking for eight cars on site; fourteen on-site spaces would normally be required to be provided. Many on-street parking spaces are available near the property. The Takoma Park City Council and the Pinecrest Neighborhood Association had both supported the parking waiver request. *(Community & Government Liaison)*

9. **Affordable Housing Programs (All Wards):** With the Council's final adoption of the ordinance approving the funding for the Home Buyer's Club, a contract has been drawn up for the Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Greater Washington, Inc. Classes will start on June 7, 2005. There are currently 24 Takoma Park residents enrolled. There is still room for 6 more, as 4 non-residents decided not to participate because of the cost. If you are aware of anyone who is interested, please have them call Linda Walker at (301) 891-7222 before June 3, 2005. *(Housing and Community Development)*

10. **Landlord-Tenant Affairs (All Wards):** As the warmer season is fast approaching, Landlord-Tenant Affairs staff has been taking steps to monitor compliance with the Air Conditioning Ordinance that passed in December 2004. Many owners of smaller properties (2-6 units) have either completed or are in the process of upgrading the electrical wiring to comply with the code. There are a number of larger properties (20-40) that are still not in compliance. One property owner states that the lowest estimate for upgrading the electrical wiring at his property has been around \$150,000. Staff is checking with the tenants of these properties to see if they are interested in filing a COLTA complaint. Municipal infractions will also be issued should work not be completed in a timely manner. *(Housing and Community Development)*

11. **Outdoor Soccer:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department's outdoor soccer clinic ended last Thursday, May 12th. The clinic taught a variety of skill and techniques to the 20 participants who ranged from 1st to 5th grade. This class will be offered once again in the fall for those who wish to increase their skill levels. *(Recreation)*

12. **Marble Tournament:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department's Annual Marble Tournament will be held this Saturday, May 14th at Jeque Park starting at 2:00p.m. The tournament is free and open to all girls and boys between the ages of 7 - 14 who live in the city. The top girl and boy marble players will represent the city in Wildwood, New Jersey at the 82nd Annual National Marble Tournament held the week of June 19th. The winner of the National Tournament receives a \$2,000 College Scholarship and will be inducted into the Marbles Hall of Fame the following year. *(Recreation)*

13. **Cable Coverage:** City TV staff are busy covering a myriad of City and community activities this week, including two Council meetings, Toatley-Fraser Park Dedication, Walt Penney Field designation, as well as the Rec. Department's Rock the Block party of two weeks ago. *(City TV)*